

**To:** Vilensky, Mike[mike.vilensky@dowjones.com]  
**Cc:** Enck, Judith[Enck.Judith@epa.gov]; Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]  
**From:** Mears, Mary  
**Sent:** Wed 8/31/2016 6:05:25 PM  
**Subject:** RE: documents that might help....

Hi Mike,

See highlighted sections of letter that we sent to the NYS Senate -- below. The EPA did not know that people were drinking water well in excess of the 400ppt until October, when we asked for more results. Prior to that, the information we had was that the one well that exceeded 400ppt was taken out of service.

On December 19, 2014, a resident of Hoosick Falls contacted the EPA regarding the presence of PFOA

in the Village's public water supply. That resident provided a copy of data that the Village had obtained

from the sampling of three of its public supply wells. The PFOA levels were 170-230 parts per trillion

(ppt) in well #3, 280 ppt in well #6 and 450-540 ppt in well #7. The data summary stated that, as a result

of the sampling, well #7 (the one well with a PFOA level exceeding the EPA provisional health advisory

of 400 ppt then in effect) was no longer being used as the primary water supply. On December 19, 2014,

EPA Region 2 contacted the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), which informed the

EPA that the well with the highest concentration of PFOA (well 7) had reportedly been taken off-line.

NYSDOH also stated it was providing support to the Rensselaer County Department of Health

(RCDOH), which was working with the Village and its water department in addressing the PFOA issue.

On December 30, 2014, Keller and Heckman, LLP, on behalf of Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics

Corp., a company with two plants in Hoosick Falls, sent a letter to the EPA's Toxic Substances Control

Act (Confidential Business Information Center in Washington, providing the same water data that the

local resident had provided to the EPA and informed EPA it had been told that the one public supply

well with a PFOA level above 400 ppt had been removed from service.

In October 2015, EPA Region 2 received a request for financial assistance from the Rensselaer County

Executive regarding the PFOA water contamination in Hoosick Falls. The EPA immediately contacted

NYSDOH again to obtain up-to-date information and sampling results, which showed that the public

water supply in Hoosick Falls contained levels of PFOA above 600 ppt.

Mary Mears

Public Affairs Director

U.S. EPA Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, the US VI and eight Indian Nations)

(212) 637-3673 (Direct Office)

(212) 637-3660 (General Office)

(646) 369-0077 (Cell)

**From:** Vilensky, Mike [mailto:mike.vilensky@dowjones.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2016 1:55 PM

**To:** Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: documents that might help....

thanks

one thing i want to clarify-when Enck says she didnt know until Oct 2015 about the PFOA in the water, did she mean she personally didnt know or that the agency did not know?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mears, Mary** <[Mears.Mary@epa.gov](mailto:Mears.Mary@epa.gov)>

Date: Wed, Aug 31, 2016 at 1:05 PM

Subject: documents that might help....

To: "[mike.vilensky@dowjones.com](mailto:mike.vilensky@dowjones.com)" <[mike.vilensky@dowjones.com](mailto:mike.vilensky@dowjones.com)>

This is our letter to the senate committee and attachments.

Mary Mears

Public Affairs Director

U.S. EPA Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, the US VI and eight Indian Nations)

(212) 637-3673 (Direct Office)

(212) 637-3660 (General Office)

(646) 369-0077 (Cell)